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5/12/02  
7-31-02  
PATENT

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 07965.0004-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

James B. GODDARD, et al.

Application No.: 10/037,219

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: PIPE HAVING WATER-TIGHT  
IN-LINE BELL

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)  
) Group Art Unit: 3627  
)  
) Examiner: Unknown  
)  
)  
)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED  
JUL 11 2002  
GROUP 3600

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application  
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

Sub 17

18. In a corrugated pipe comprising two sections joined by  
telescopically mating a male end of one section with a female end of the  
other section, the improvement comprising:

an annular sealing element fixed to the exterior surface of the male  
end and disposed to sealingly engage the interior surface of the female  
end; and

an annular band of reinforcing material disposed around the  
exterior surface of the female end at a position along the longitudinal axis  
thereof that is in general alignment with the sealing element, the  
reinforcing material resisting loss of sealing engagement between the  
female end and the sealing element during use of the pipe.

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